

Committee on Homeland Security

Democrats
Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking
Member

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DEMOCRATS INTRODUCE AMENDMENT TO SECURE CYBERSECURITY AND HARNESS TECHNOLOGY TO PREVENT DISASTER

April 27, 2005, Washington, DC — Committee Democrats introduced an amendment to strengthen cybersecurity at the markup today to consider the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for fiscal year 2006.

Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment Security, said the following during the markup, "Identity management and access control technologies are currently used within some intelligence agencies, but could be used more widely to share information between agencies. These are just two tools that will improve our ability to ensure accurate information gets to the right people in the war against terrorism."

The cybersecurity amendment includes provisions to make cybersecurity a priority at the Department by establishing an office of Assistant Secretary for Cybersecurity within the Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate. The amendment also requires the Department to develop technology to share with the National Intelligence Director. Also included in the amendment were provisions that require the Department to make cybersecurity research a priority and to promote cybersecurity training.